Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A wireless communications unit comprising:

a casing having a front face;

a display;

internal logic contained within the casing, the internal logic to perform a pickup pause function; and

a keypad having a button configured to signal the internal logic to initiate the pickup pause function to (i) automatically answer an incoming call, ~~and~~ (ii) playback a message that indicates an intended recipient is temporarily unavailable to answer the incoming call prior to or concurrent with producing an event to notify the recipient of the incoming call and indicates an estimated amount of time delay before the incoming call is answered, and (iii) requesting a signal as to whether a caller of the incoming call is willing to wait the estimated time period.

2. (Original) The wireless communication unit of claim 1, wherein the keypad further includes a button that, when depressed, causes the internal logic to suspend playback of the message and establish an audio channel adapted for transmission of audio from the unit.

3. (Original) The wireless communication unit of claim 1, wherein the event is a warning perceivable only by the recipient.

4. (Original) The wireless communication unit of claim 3, wherein the event is an activation of a vibration device contained within the casing.

5. (Original) The wireless communication unit of claim 1, wherein the internal logic further initiates the pickup pause function for generating an alphanumeric message for output to a caller.

6. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication unit of claim 1, wherein the ~~playback of the message indicates an estimated~~ amount of time delay needed before the recipient can accept the incoming call~~, the amount of time delay~~ is programmed by the user through depression of buttons on the keypad.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

enabling a pickup pause functionality performed by internal logic within a wireless communication unit, the pickup pause functionality includes answering an incoming call by a caller with a recorded message audible only to the caller to indicate that a recipient is temporarily unavailable for an estimated amount of time, ~~and~~ generating a silent warning perceivable by the recipient concurrently with or after playback of the recorded message and inquiring whether the caller is willing to wait the estimated amount of time; and

completing an audio channel to the wireless communication unit to allow the recipient to talk with the caller and suspending playback of the recorded message once the recipient is available to answer the incoming call.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein enabling of the pickup pause functionality further includes setting the wireless communication unit to answer the incoming call with the recorded message automatically without any activity by the recipient.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the enabling of the pickup pause functionality further includes programming ~~an~~ the estimated amount of time

for inclusion into the recorded message, the estimated amount of time being represented in accordance with a selected time interval.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the selected time interval is a selected number of seconds.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein generating the silent warning includes activating a device of the wireless communication unit to cause the wireless communication unit to vibrate.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the enabling of the pickup pause functionality further includes programming the wireless communication unit to answer the incoming call with the recorded message that indicates ~~an~~ the estimated amount of time delay before the incoming call can be accepted by completing the audio channel, and at the end of the estimated amount of time delay, automatically disengaging the pickup pause functionality to complete the audio channel.

14. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

enabling a pickup pause functionality at a service provider, the pickup pause functionality includes answering an incoming call by a caller with a recorded message audible only to the caller to indicate that a recipient is temporarily unavailable to answer the incoming call for an estimated period of time, ~~and~~ sending a signal to a wireless communication unit of the recipient to generate a silent signal to warn the recipient of the incoming call and requesting a signal from the caller whether the caller is willing to wait the estimated period of time; and

completing an audio channel to the wireless communication unit and suspending playback of the recorded message once the recipient is available to answer the incoming call.

15. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

enabling a pickup pause functionality performed by internal logic within a wireless communication unit, the pickup pause functionality includes generating a warning perceivable only by a holder of the wireless communication unit upon receipt of an incoming call;

activating a recorded message by the holder for indicating to the caller that the holder is temporarily unavailable to answer the incoming call for an estimated period of time;

requesting a source of the incoming call to indicate whether the source is willing to wait for the estimated period of time; and

suspending playback of the recorded message and completing an audio channel to the wireless communication unit to allow the caller to talk with the holder once the holder is available to answer the incoming call.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the activating of the recorded message includes depressing a dedicated button on the wireless communication device.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein prior to suspending playback of the recorded message, the method further comprises depressing buttons of a keypad of the wireless communication unit by the holder to program a duration of time delay, which is indicated through a message only audible to the caller, that is needed for the holder to answer the incoming call.

18. (Currently Amended) A software embodied in internal memory of a wireless communication unit and executable by a processing unit, comprising:

a first software module to enable a pickup pause function including answering an incoming call with a message audible to indicate that both a recipient is temporarily unavailable to answer the incoming call and an estimated amount of time delay before the incoming call is answered; and

a second software module to activate a device within the wireless communication unit for warning the recipient of the incoming call and requesting a signal as to whether a caller of the incoming call is willing to wait the estimated time period.

19. (Original) The software of claim 18 further comprising a third software module to establish an audio channel between the wireless communication unit and a unit transmitting the incoming call.

20. (Original) The software of claim 18 further comprising a third software module to suspend iterative playback of the message once the recipient is available to answer the incoming call.

21. (Original) The software of claim 18, wherein the first and second software modules are loaded in the internal memory of a cellular phone operating as the wireless communication unit.

22. (New) The wireless communication unit of claim 1, wherein the incoming call is transferred to voicemail if no signal is received from the caller.